

**For Immediate Release**

April 10, 2002

**Contact:** John Sewell

601-359-2916

## **Governor Musgrove Signs Bill Requiring Background Checks For Health Care Employees**

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove has signed legislation requiring criminal background checks on employees at licensed health care facilities.

“When you are in need of health care, you should be confident in the people caring for you,” Musgrove said. “This bill helps ensure the safety and security of the people of Mississippi.”

Senate Bill 2191 also specifies that individuals who have been convicted or pleaded guilty to certain offenses cannot be employed at a health care facility, and provides sentencing guidelines for employees found guilty of perjury under this new law.

In his 2002 State of the State address, Musgrove identified public safety as one of four main priorities.

“With background checks, patients will have peace of mind knowing they have this added protection,” said Musgrove. “No one should ever have to worry about the people caring for them.”

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